

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 ABF-01
OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 /134 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0402
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01191

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, MARR
SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH MIS-
SION ON UNIFIL FINANCING

REF: (A) STATE 079988; (B) USUN 1175; (C) STATE 082597

1. USUN DISCUSSED UNIFIL FINANCING WITH FRENCH MISOFFS
(DERRE AND LEFORT) MARCH 31. WE REVIEWED SUBSTANCE OF
AMBASSADOR LEONARD'S DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH AMB.
TUENI (REF B) AND MENTIONED THAT BUTROS HAD EXPRESSED WILL-
INGNESS TO SOUND OUT CERTAIN MEMBER STATES, POSSIBLY IN-
CLUDING THE SOVIET UNION ON UNIFIL FINANCING (REF C). WE
STRESSED OUR DESIRE TO ENCOURAGE OBSERVANCE OF COLLECTIVE
FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, AS ENDORSED BY SECURITY COUNCIL,
AND SAID WE WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO
PROCEED TOWARD THIS GOAL. WE NOTED ALSO OUR PREFERENCE
FOR THE REGULAR SCALE IN APPORTIONING COSTS, AND
BACKGROUND OF THIS POSITION.

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2. IT WAS CLEAR FROM THEIR RESPONSE THAT DERRE AND LEFORT
HAD NOT DEVOTED MUCH THOUGHT TO THIS MATTER. LEFORT SAID
FRENCH MISSION HAD BEEN RATHER OCCUPIED WITH LOGISTICAL
AND SUPPLY PROBLEMS RELATING TO INSERTION FRENCH CONTIN-
GENT IN LEBANON. DERRE REMARKED THAT THE SOVIETS COULD
NOT DISPUTE THE LEGALITY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFIL (AS

THEY AND THE FRENCH HAD IN THE CASE OF THE CONGO), BUT LEFORT SAID SHE WAS RATHER SKEPTICAL THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD PARTICIPATE IN UNIFIL FINANCING. SHE FELT THAT THE SOVIET AND CZECH ABSTENTIONS ON SC RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 REPRESENTED AN OBSTACLE TO PARTICIPATION. AFTER GENERAL - AND NOT VERY PROFOUND - EXCHANGES ALONG FOREGOING LINES, DERRE AND LEFORT SEEMED TO AGREE THAT IT WAS WORTHWHILE TO SEEK WAYS TO ENCOURAGE SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN SUPPORT OF UNIFIL. THEY FELT IT BEST TO AWAIT OUTCOME OF LEBANESE INITIATIVES AND GRADUALLY DEVELOP TACTICS IN LIGHT OF THEM.

3. DERRE, WHO REPRESENTS MINISTRY OF FINANCE IN FRENCH MISSION, AND LEFORT SAID THEY WOULD REPORT OUR CONVERSATION TO PARIS. THEY SAID THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT HERE WITH LEBANESE MISSION ON UNIFIL FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FELT SUCH WOULD BETTER BE CONDUCTED IN PARIS. THEY FELT IT WOULD BE A BIT AWKWARD FOR FRENCH TO BROACH QUESTION DIRECTLY TO SOVIETS, BUT WILL WATCH FOR OPENINGS TO TAKE SOME CASUAL SOUNDINGS. DERRE IS IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH USUN THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO ACCEPT FIFTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TALIEH'S OFFER TO ACT AS GO-BETWEEN WITH SOVIETS ON ANY ASPECT OF UNIFIL FINANCING.

4. DERRE AND LEFORT WERE APPRECIATIVE OF OUR APPROACH AND SEEM POSITIVE TOWARD LINE WE TOOK. WE THINK OUR INITIATIVE WILL BEAR GOOD FRUIT. WELLS
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NNN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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